

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/923,973

Examiner

Roy M. Punnoose

Applicant(s)

SEBOK ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment received Nov. 09, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

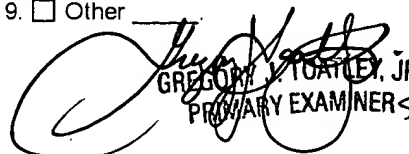
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10/2002,01/2002
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


GREGORY J. TOATLEY, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt of applicant's response to Election/Restriction requirement of the previous office action received on November 09, 2004 is acknowledged.
2. In view of the applicant's amendment of the claims, the Examiner has withdrawn the Restriction requirement of the previous office action.
3. Claims 1-14 are pending in the case.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-14 are allowable.
5. Claim 1 is allowable because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious an optical debris analysis fixture for imaging debris passing through an optical flow cell, comprising a plate having a plurality of component pin openings, wherein at least one set of said plurality of component pin openings are plate slots, and a plurality of components detachably mounted to said plate, each of said plurality of components having at least two registration pins that fit into said plurality of component pin openings, wherein one of said plurality of components carries the optical flow cell, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 1.
6. Claims 2-9 are allowable because they are dependent on independent claims 1, or an intermediate claim.
7. Claim 10 is allowable because the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious an optical debris analysis fixture for imaging debris passing through an optical flow cell, comprising a plate having a plurality of component pin openings

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and a plurality of mount holes, a camera mount assembly having a pair of registration pins receivable in a first pair of said plurality of component pin openings, said camera mount having a pair of base holes alignable with a first pair of said mount holes for receiving fasteners to secure said camera mount assembly to said plate, and an illuminator assembly having a pair of registration pins receivable in a second pair of said plurality of component pin openings which are in the form of slots, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claim 10.

8. Claims 11-14 are allowable because they are dependent on independent claims 10, or an intermediate claim.

9. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion


10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Roy M. Punnoose** whose telephone number is **571-272-2427**. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

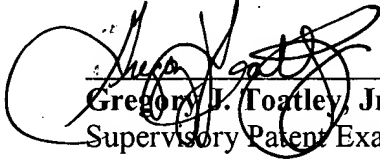
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Gregory J. Toatley, Jr.** can be reached on **571-272-2059**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **703-872-9306**.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

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applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Roy M. Punnoose
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2877
December 08, 2004



Gregory J. Toatley, Jr. AU 2877
Supervisory Patent Examiner
9 Dec 04